IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor(s) : Robert A. Levine et al.

Serial No. : 10/519,585

Filed : January 9, 2006

Entitled : SYSTEMS FOR AND METHODS OF ATRIOVENTRICULAR

VALVE REGURGITATION AND REVERSING

VENTRICULAR REMODELING

Group Art Unit : 3738

Examiner : To be determined

Confirmation No. : 9567

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached Form PTO 1449, and respectfully request that the listed documents be considered by the Examiner and made of record in the above-captioned application. Copies of the United States patent references listed on the Form PTO-1449 are not enclosed, but the PCT, foreign and non-patent references are enclosed.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under

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United States law, applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of the documents.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

This submission is being filed before any action by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the merits. Therefore, applicants do not believe that any fee is due in connection with the submission of this paper. However, if any fee is due, or if any overpayment has been made, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any such fee or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 50-2054.

Respectfully submitted,

DORSEY & WHITNEY, LLP

December 29, 2006

Gary Abeley PTO Reg. No. 40,479 Attorneys for Applicants (212) 415-9371

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Examiner

Date Considered

^{*****}References cited in International Search Report for International Application No. PCT/US03/20450

^{*} Examiner: Initial citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not onsidered—leader covers in the conformance and not onsidered—leader covers in the conformance and not onsidered—leader covers in the conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation in not in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation in the conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through ci

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^{*} Examiner: Initial citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not opinionable redeficies to the conformance and not opinionable redeficies to the conformance and not opinionable redeficies to the conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation in not in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation in not in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation in not in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation in not in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation in not in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation in not in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation in not in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation in not in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation in not in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation in not in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation in not in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation in not in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation in not in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation in not in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation in not in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation in not in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation in not in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through c